RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Andaman Chamber of Commerce and Industry has written to the Government that they estimate a daily loss to the tourism industry at over Rs. 30 lakhs.

(c) and (d) An Integrated Media strategy has been developed to boost tourism ih the Tsunami hit States of India, comprising the following:

1. Familiarisation trips of Tour Operators/Media Representatives.
2. Brochure/Map/Posters/CD Roms for distribution.
3. Electronic Media Campaign.
4. Print Media Campaign.
5. Use of Internet for marketing of such States in the international as well as domestic markets.

Promoting night bazaars

4299. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start nigh bazaars in all cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether her Ministry has written a letter to the Chief Ministers of ail States and Administrators of Union Territories to explore possibilities to start night bazaars;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the States and Union Territories to the said communication?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) Ministry of Tourism has evolved a concept of Night Bazaar as an attempt to provide a unique shopping experience as well as to preserve and nourish the traditional art, craft and cultural forms of the country. The first project "Mumbai Mela" in January 2005 was supported by the Ministry. The first Night Bazaar in Delhi has been started *w.e.f.* 27/03/05 at Lily Pool Lawns of Hotel Ashok.

Agreement with Italy on tourism

4300. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Italy have recently signed agreements in the field of tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the agreements; and

(c) the terms of agreements signed by two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) India has signed a bilateral agreement with Italy on 26th June, 2000 to encourage cooperation in the field of tourism. It provides for exchange of information on the characteristics of the tourism market, experience in the field of management of hotels, exchange of professionals for tourism training and development of tourism promotion and publicity. It lays emphasis on exchange of information along with exploring opportunities for cooperation if any other area of mutual interest in the field of tourism. The agreement was signed on mutually agreed terms, beneficial to both the countries.

Central help for development of tourist spots

4301. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many important tourist spots in the country have not been developed due to resource crunch faced by the States; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to identify such tourist spots and provide funds for developing them to attract more tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRrMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Identification, Development and promotion of tourism destinations/sites is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism under its scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development of Tourist Circuits and Destinations has been assisting State Governments based on the project proposals received from the State Governments, merit of the proposal,/nter-se-priority and availability of funds.

Arrangements for 2010 Commonwealth Games

4302. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state: